ABSTRACT

An impurity measuring device includes a table
(T) on which a sample (S) is to be placed with its
fracture surface (h) facing up, an illuminating means
(7) for irradiating the fracture surface (h) with light
5 (L) from a plurality of directions, an image sensing
means for sensing an image of the fracture surface (h)
irradiated with the light (L), continuous tone color
image processing means for processing the sensed image
into a continuous tone color image, and a binarizing
10 means for binarizing the continuous tone color image
through comparison between the result of the continuous
tone color image processing and a threshold value. As
the fracture surface (h) is irradiated with the light
(L) from the plurality of directions, the image obtained
15 by sensing the image of the fracture surface (h) is free
from shading or optical irregularities caused by minute
irregularities on the fracture surface (h). Therefore,
impurities in the sample (S) can be accurately detected
from the fracture surface (h) by subjecting the image to
20 the continuous tone color image processing and
binarization.